constructed at New Delhi for free treatment of retired Air Force Personnel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to construct and extend such facilities for other retired defence personnel of Army and Navy;

(d) if so, the proposed locations thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (e) Air Force have set up a Super Speciality Veteran Hospital at Subroto Park, New Delhi, from their Welfare and non-Public Funds. At present, this is an enterprise outside Government purview. A request has, however, also been received for financial assistance of Rs. 6.00 crores from National Defence Fund for this Hospital.

The Super Speciality Veteran Hospital will have 54 beds and it will provide specialised treatment for Cardiac, Renal, Orthopaedics and Malignant Diseases. The hospital is primarily meant for retired Indian Air Force personnel and their families. Surplus beds if available will be offered to retired personnel of Army and Navy.

At present, the Army and Navy have no proposal for setting up of hospitals for ex-Servicemen. The ex-Servicemen of the three Services and their families are provided medical facilities in Service hospitals except for psychiatric treatment, cancer treatment, kidney transplantation and coronary by-pass surgery. For the treatment of these ailments financial assistance is provided under the Group Insurance Schemes of the Armed Forces. Under the Group Insurance scheme, an amount of Rs. 1.00 lakh is paid for heart treatment, Rs. 75,000/- for Cancer treatment, Rs. 1.00 lakh for Renal transplant and Rs. 75,000/- for hip and knee joint replacement. Those ex-Servicemen who are not covered under the medical insurance scheme, are provided financial assistance upto 60% of total expenditure on treatment of serious diseases, e.g, by-pass surgery, angiography, kidney renal transplant, cancer, coronary artery surgery, etc., by the Kendriya Sainik Board.

Deployment of Armed Forces for internal security

*19. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy on the use of Armed Forces for internal security on permanent basis;

(b) the guiding principles for the use of Armed Forces for internal security and when the Armed Forces are deployed for internal security; and

(c) the structure for command and control of Armed Forces when deployed for internal security?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) The constitution of India lays down that "It shall be the duty of the Union to protect every state against external aggression and internal disturbance and to ensure that the Govt. of every State is carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution." The Armed Forces are called upon by the Union Govt. to restore normalcy in any State if any group expresses secessionist aims and/or is responsible for creating a situation of internal disturbance beyond the capacity of the State Govt. to contain such a situation. This is sometimes preceded by declaration of such a State as disturbed area and declaration of the group as an unlawful organisation. The Armed Forces when so called upon enjoy special powers of search and arrest in the event of the State concerned having been declared as disturbed area. The Govt. are not in favour of deployment of armed forces on permanent basis; as soon as any situation which necessitates the deployment of armed forces for civil duties is over, the armed forces are withdrawn.

(b) The duties of preserving law & order, of protecting property and of quelling disturbances rest on civil police and other civil Govt. forces. Every effort is made to maintain the civil administration as long as possible. It is only when it is perceived that the civil resources are inadequate to meet the situation, civil authority may call on the Armed Forces for assistance. The stage at which the civil

forces will be reinforced by troops is decided by the local civil authorities in consultation with the Officer Commanding the Armed Forces.

(c) There is no change in the existing structure for command and control of the Armed Forces when they are deployed for internal security. They continue to function under the command structure of the Army while performing internal security duties in aid to civil authorities.

Constitution of Telephone Advisory Committee

*20. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Telephone Advisory Committees have been dissolved recently;

(b) if so, by when the new Committee are likely to be constituted;

(c) the facilities which are given to the memebrs of such Committees; and

(d) the criterion for appointment of memebrs to those Committees?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) No Sir.

(b) There are 227 field units where TACs are required to be constituted. Out of these, TACs have been constituted in 100 units. For the remaining units, action is being taken to constitute them in the near future.

(c) The following facilities are available to TAC memebrs:

(i) A Service Telephone connection is provided, subject to the condition that no dues are pending against his/her name.

(ii) 1150 free calls bimonthly.

(iii) In addition to the above, non-official Members of TAC are entitled to draw Rs. 50/- as TA/DA for attending each TAC meeting.

(d) Appointments to TAC are made after taking into account the recommendations made by the Heads of Telecom Circle, MPs, MLAs and the representations received by the DOT Head Quarters.

The TAC memebrs should belong to one of the following categories:—

1. State Legislature.
2. Press.
3. Medical Profession.
4. Legal Profession.
5. All other Professions like Engineers Architects etc.
6. Trade, Commerce and Industry.
7. Public workers and others.
8. MPs are nominated by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs under the category of MPs.
9. State Administration.
10. Corporation/Civil Body.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

गुजरात की ग्राम पंचायतों में डाक तथा तार सुविधाएं

1. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 1996 के दौरान गुजरात में अब तक कितनी ग्राम पंचायतों में डाक तथा तारघर सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराई गई हैं;

(ख) प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत में यह सुविधा उपलब्ध कराने के लिए क्या समय-सीमा निर्धारित की गई है;

(ग) ग्राम पंचायतों के अंतर्गत कितने डाकघरों में एस.टी.डी. सुविधा उपलब्ध है;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने राज्य के प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत डाकघर में एस.टी.डी. सुविधा उपलब्ध कराने के लिए कोई समयबद्ध योजना तैयार की है;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका जिला-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(च) क्या सरकार राज्य के प्रमुख शहरों में "स्पीड पोस्ट" सुविधा प्रदान करने का विचार रखती है; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी जिला-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

संचार मंत्री (श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) वर्ष 1996 के दौरान गुजरात में अब तक पंचायत वाले गांवों के लिए